

begin selling in 1997 in the U.S. and Canada." Minano said the ethanol industry needs to continue to work with the automobile manufacturers to finalize fuel specifications, commonize fuel delivery systems, and develop a refueling infrastructure.

Minano also said, "We are particularly pleased to have the opportunity to make this announcement at the Governors' Ethanol Coalition meeting. I know the governors are committed to working with us and with the private infrastructure business to make this program a success. This program is really a partnership in the truest sense of the word."

General Motors has been a leader in developing alternative fuel vehicle technologies for more than 25 years. Our strategy has been, and will continue to be, fuel neutral. This strategy includes continuing the development of gaseous, alcohol, and electric vehicles. Minano said, "The market has to have room to allow multiple fuels. There should not be a mandate for a single technology."

The trucks are scheduled for production beginning in the summer of 1996 and will be produced at North American Truck Group facilities in Shreveport, Louisiana, and Linden, New Jersey. They will be sold in the U.S. and Canada under the GMC Truck and Chevrolet nameplates.●

DISAPPOINTMENT OVER DELAY IN FOSTER NOMINATION

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today is the third day I am stating for the RECORD my sincere disappointment that the Foster nomination has not been sent to the Senate floor for a vote.

Clearly, the Nation needs a Surgeon General; clearly we have problems with AIDS, Alzheimers, cancers of every type, Parkinson's, teen pregnancy, just to name a few.

Clearly the time is long overdue for this Nation to have a Surgeon General. Dr. Henry Foster is qualified and eager to be Nation's top doctor. We need his leadership.

Dr. Foster was voted out of committee with a favorable, bipartisan vote. He deserves confirmation and there is no need to delay.●

100TH BIRTHDAY OF ESTHER EARNEST HEWICKER

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I was recently contacted by the O'Brien family in Iowa about a very special event that will happen on June 21. On that day, Esther Earnest Hewicker, of Remsen, IA, will celebrate her 100th birthday. Mrs. Hewicker has lived a long and vibrant life and I want to join with her family and her many friends in Iowa in wishing her my warmest birthday greetings on this very special day. During her lifetime, Iowa and our Nation have undergone many changes and endured many great challenges.

Mr. President, in commemoration of this very special day and in tribute to Esther Hewicker, I ask that a letter to me from the O'Brien family reviewing her life be included in the RECORD at this point.

The letter follows:

DEAR SENATOR HARKIN: It is with great pride that we, the O'Brien family, inform

you of the one hundredth birthday of a woman who has dedicated her life to the welfare of those around her. Esther Earnest Hewicker, born June 21, 1895, near Remsen, Iowa, was the youngest of eight surviving children. At that time Esther's life was typical of the era. Her days were spent going to school, doing chores, and often caring for the children of her adult siblings. Esther lost her father to a medical condition, "consumption", when she was ten years old and as a result she, her mother, and remaining underage siblings left the farm and moved into Remsen.

Esther graduated from Remsen High School in 1913. After working for one year as a seamstress and caring for various nieces and nephews, Esther borrowed money from her mother to enter the Normal School in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where she earned a two-year degree in intermediate education. Esther taught seventeen years in small towns in Northwestern Iowa; two years each in Akron and Aurelia, and thirteen years in Marcus.

Esther began teaching in 1916 in Akron, Iowa, during World War I. At that time, it was important for civilian citizens to do what they could to support the war. Esther served through the Red Cross, making bandages and rolling gauze. Further, when teaching, Esther incorporated war effort projects into appropriate school subjects. For instance, during the teaching of hand work, Esther got yarn pieces from the Red Cross and had her students knit squares that would later be sent back to the Red Cross and sewn into lap blankets.

At the onset of her career, teachers earned approximately \$65.00 monthly for only nine months of the year. During summers, holidays, and weekends Esther returned home and assisted her mother with a house full of chores, for everything in those days was done by hand and without refrigeration. Food preservation, preparation and storage were long-term projects involving gardening, butchering, canning, and baking using a wood stove. Water was carried for daily needs, drinking, bathing, cleaning, etc. General housekeeping involved floor scrubbing, hardwood waxing, rug beating, lamp trimming and window washing. Often the supplies for doing such chores needed to be made. The soap used for laundry and cleaning was made at home, usually in conjunction with butchering. Further, more time had to be made when specific attention needed to be paid to caring for the sick or repairing broken items.

In 1920, at the time Esther began teaching in Marcus, she also took on the responsibility of singlehandedly caring for her aging and ailing mother on a full-time basis. To supplement their income and make ends meet, Esther also "kept roomers". Esther maintained her full-time teaching position and eventually became Junior High principal, which in those days constituted an increase in responsibility as her teaching duties continued. Esther continued to live independently, maintaining her career, caring for her mother and keeping roomers. Esther did this until 1934.

At the age of 37½, Esther married Frank Hewicker, a Remsen, Iowa farmer. Her mother was transferred to the care of other siblings. Esther then began a new career, farming with her husband, for in those days, farming could only succeed if done as a partnership between husband and wife. The volume of work and sheer labor required to complete necessary tasks could not be done by one person alone. Esther cared for twin lambs abandoned by their mothers, raised ducks, geese and up to one thousand chickens each year. She kept a huge garden and did all of the housework, laundry, mending

and cooking necessary for her family and the hired help, all without the aid of electricity, running water or refrigeration. The Hewickers began farming land south of Remsen and after approximately twelve years purchased land south of Marcus, where they stayed their entire married life. Presently, with the help of dedicated renters, Esther continues to oversee the farm.

At the age of 45, prior to the couple's move to the new land, Esther gave birth to a daughter, Ila Jean Hewicker. Esther continued to run the farm with her husband, and raised her family. At that time, Esther and her family were active contributors to their church and community, both in a physical and financial sense. Esther maintained a position on the Marcus Fair Committee for twenty-five years and was part of the decision-making process for the building of the Marcus Theater, original community swimming pool, health clinic, and countless other projects. Further, the couple found time to frequent area nursing homes, where they provided the residents with fresh produce and flowers. Esther and her husband also made a point to tend to the sick, shut-in or underprivileged within and outside their immediate families whenever they could.

Strong believers in education, there was never a doubt that their daughter would go to college. Esther and Frank supported and encouraged Ila through college and proudly watched her earn her Bachelor's Degree in Education. Ila eventually married and had a family of her own.

It is important to note that Esther's dedication to education did not stop with her career or her daughter's completion of college. Esther was an active member of the P.E.O. Club for many years and following Ila's high school graduation, Esther was elected to the Marcus School Board. Further, Esther and Frank created college funds for all four of their grandchildren, adding substantial amounts of money to each over the years. With that financial assistance, Esther's two eldest grandchildren received Masters degrees, one in Education, and one in Social Work. The third is presently an undergraduate in an Art Education program and the fourth will enter college in the Fall.

Esther is presently a resident of Happy Siesta Nursing Home in Remsen, Iowa, and has been for the past nine years. Esther made this move independently and presently continues to welcome new residents, helps ease their transition from home to nursing home living and encourages them to participate in the many activities available to them. Esther often receives visitors from the area and enjoys keeping up with the news and lives of life-long friends. Though her old students are senior citizens now, she sees many who visit, and makes a point to ask after those who cannot.

Clearly, Esther Earnest Hewicker's contributions to society have been vast throughout her long lifetime and still her humor, character, and gregarious personality have yet to be mentioned. It is with sincere pride that we ask that Esther's contributions be recognized formally, as the benefits of her life reaped by others are immeasurable.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

KATHY O'BRIEN
and the entire O'Brien family.●

ORDERS FOR TOMORROW

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 10 a.m. on Friday, June 16; that following the